Education.—With the strengthening of the staff of Inspectors according to the orders on the Special Finance Committee Report, with the special grant proposed to be made to the St. Thomas' College, with the increased provisions under 'Grants-in-aid', with the provision of Rs. 6,000 towards the annual recurring donation to the Benares Hindu University and the special provisions for opening new classes and divisions, not to speak of the general revision of pay, the expenditure on 'Education' is expected to exceed the revised estimate of Rs. 13,66,800 by Rs. 1,15,400.

Medical.—The steady growth of expenditure under the head, which I have had occasion to refer to in my retrospect, is fairly well-maintained for the coming year as well, the budget estimate being fixed at Rs. 3,74,500, *i. e.*, Rs. 46,900 more than the revised estimate for the current year. Larger staff of nurses and surgeons to meet the growing demands, larger provision made for the supply of medicines and instruments (including those for the X-Ray department), the continuance of the stipends for higher medical studies in and out of India, the expansion of the scheme of subsidised rural dispensaries and the increased grants to them are some of the main items that go to contribute to the enhanced expenditure under the head. The construction of the Leper Asylum buildings has almost neared completion, and it is proposed to open them early next year. The usual provisions alone have been made under the head now though the Government may have to transfer or supplement them when the actual working of the new asylum is started.

Sanitation and Conservancy.— When presenting the budget estimate last year I observed 'Government have been considering whether it would not be a step in the right direction, if the maintenance of the trunk roads be taken ovee by the State Public Works Department instead of burdening the Municipalities with the expenditure therefore, and they have now decided to take them over'. The step proposed has not, however, been fully relished by the Municipalities, and representations have been made by them. Government are carefully reviewing the situation in the light of the representations made, and meanwhile they have budgetted for a more vigorous programme of works in the several towns and Municipalities by making an increased provision of Rs. 58,000 as against Rs. 31,050 in the revised estimate. Kunnamkulam and Irinjalakkuda are proposed to be treated as Municipalities, and steps are being taken in the direction. A lump provision of Rs. 5,000 is made to meet the preliminary expenses in this connection.

Passing on, I now come to '**Public Works**', under which has been made a provision of Rs. 18,17,400—the details of which

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are given as appendices to the report. As may be seen from the programme, a vigorous policy of opening up new roads has been adopted for the coming year. The opening of a road in Gothuruthi, of a road to the Nellayi Railway Station, of roads from Kodakara to Vellikulangara, from Melur to Muringur, from Kunnamkulam to Pazhanji, Chelakkara to Kambakadavu, from Erumapetti to connect Ponnani road, from Chalakkudi to Mala, the Palluruthi road work, the completion of the Nelliampathy road work, of the road from Mala to Adur, etc., are some of the major works proposed. After mature consideration, the Rubicon has been crossed and the shifting of the Maharaja's College to Rama Varmapuram has been decided upon. Constructions have been set on foot this year, and a provision of Rs. 3,00,000 is made therefor in the coming year. The construction of a Hospital for Mattancheri, providing accommodation for the V. G. School, Chittur, construction of Police lines and Village offices are some of the main items in the budgetted programme under 'Buildings'. Under 'Irrigation' the improvements to Manapat and Attur Chiras, the opening of a canal from Muriyad lake to Murkanad Kayal for Karuvannur flood protection are a few of the major works proposed to be done in the coming year. On the 'Mechanical' side, provisions have been made for extensions in the Nemmara water supply system and for pushing on the Mattancheri, Trichur, Aylur water supply schemes, etc. The investigations in connection with the Hydro-Electric scheme, for which a special officer has been appointed, are being pushed through, and a provision of Rs. 15,000 has been made in this connection for the next year. The scheme, if it becomes a success, which the Government think it would be, I need hardly state, is of immense potentialities for the future development of the State. A new departure in the budget is the provision of Rs. 50,000 for carrying out sanctioned works which were not executed or which could not be attended to in the current year. On the efficacy of the provision I have spoken in detail when dealing with a similar provision, under 'Panchayats'. I am afraid, the Public Works Department has a very heavy programme before it; but I have every hope that the Department will see them through in the year and come to the Council asking for more grants, if necessary, for carrying out substantial works in irrigation and other branches of public utility.

Under '**Scientific, etc., Departments**', only the usual provisions have been made and the budget estimate of 1106 (Rs. 1,62,500) more or less repeats the revised estimate. A word may not perhaps be out of place in connection with the enhanced provision of Rs. 20,000 under 'Stoneware Factory'. The pro-

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gramme of work for the next year, as proposed at present, consists of the production of Minton tiles, Fire-bricks and Pipes. The tiles are proposed to be used largely in the Rama Varmapuram College buildings under construction, and enquiries from elsewhere are also being received. The Fire-bricks turned out by the factory have this year been officially approved by the Madras Government Cordite Factory, and it can be said that the west coast market will take in our fire-bricks. Stone-ware pipes have come out successful in the factory and a large quantity will be required for the sewage works in the new College construction.

Up-lift of the Depressed Classes.—The budget estimate is fixed at Rs. 1,09,500 as against the revised estimate of Rs. 96,600. The activities of the Department are proposed to be expanded in all directions—in regard to colonies, educational progress, etc., and hence the increase.

A new major head of account has been, as already mentioned by me elsewhere, opened called 'State Conveyances' to represent the expenditure incurred on account of the maintenance of cars, boats, horses and carriages, etc., in accordance with the recommendations of the Special Finance Committee.

A Reserve Fund.—Last year in concluding my statement before the Council I observed that 'we are open to a criticism, and rightly too, that we are not building a reserve to the extent of an year's income to be drawn upon on emergencies only as is done in other progressive sister States. The balance at our disposal, as already explained, could not admit of this at present, but the Government may be able to build up one with the present amounts in long-term securities, etc., as a nucleus.' Pending a definite decision regarding the financial involvements of the Darbar in connection with the development of the Harbour and the construction of the Broad Gauge Railway, the idea has not yet fructified.

Cranganur.

Before I resume my seat, I shall, as usual, offer a few remarks on the Cranganur Budget also.

The actual transactions of 1104 resulted in a small surplus of Rs. 3,015, the gross receipts and expenditure having been Rs. 1,95,862 and Rs. 1,92,847 respectively, though according to the revised estimates of the year it was expected that the year would close with a deficit of Rs. 2,270.

In the budget estimate of the current year we anticipated a revenue of Rs. 1,99,640 and the expenditure was fixed at Rs. 2,00,980, thus leaving a deficit of Rs. 1,340. Though the revised estimate expects an improvement of Rs. 9,090 in receipts,

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